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MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 30-02

September 12, 2002

Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) Threat Level: HIGH (Orange) Maritime Security Condition: Two

The U.S. Intelligence community has reported information indicating that the possibility of attacks against U.S. interests Southeast Asia and the Middle East on or near the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks. The most attractive targets appear to be the transportation and energy sectors, as well as facilities such as U.S. Embassies, monuments, and military bases. Although the focus of these threats is overseas, a similar pattern of intelligence preceded the September 11, 2001 attacks. Reporting indicates that widely dispersed and unsophisticated strikes are also possible. Accordingly, the U.S. government raised the HSAS threat level from **ELEVATED** (YELLOW) to **HIGH** (ORANGE) on September 10, 2002 which warrants additional precautionary measures within the U.S.

Attorney General Ashcroft specifically highlighted the threat to the domestic transportation and energy sectors. Marine transportation authorities, maritime transportation system owners and operators, particularly of cruise ships, other high capacity passenger vessels, and facilities that service these vessels, as well facilities that handle bulk hazardous cargoes are urged to implement appropriate protective measures that correspond to condition ORANGE under HSAS. Such measures should include an increase of private security forces and 100 percent ID check of all personnel entering facilities.

The stakeholders are requested to increase the awareness of all personnel involved, and report any suspicious activities to local law enforcement **and** the National Response Center (1-800-424-8802).

Further guidance will be provided to stakeholders, as warranted, by the local Captains of the Port.

M. M. ROSECRANS Captain, U.S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port